

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) Screening Template

When to complete an EqIA Screening

An EqIA Screening Template must be completed when reviewing, changing and developing procedures/ proposals/ projects/ policies. This is a first step and is used to consider whether there are any negative impacts that may arise.

Purpose of an EqIA Screening Template

The purpose of this short exercise is to ensure that you have shown appropriate due regard when considering the impact for people with protected characteristics in your decision making. The screening process is designed to help you consider the circumstances and to inform evidence-based decisions.

If the proposal is of a significant nature and it is apparent from the outset that a full EqIA will be required, then it is not necessary to complete this Screening Template, you can proceed to complete the full [EqIA](#).

If no negative impacts are identified following completion of the EqIA screening then it is not necessary to undertake a full EqIA however, the decision and justification must be clearly recorded in this document.

On completion of the Screening Template:

- Ensure that all the white boxes within the screening are completed.
- Ensure that the Procedure/ Project/ Proposal/ Policy owner has signed and dated the Screening Template.
- Send a copy of the completed template along with the related policy or project proposal to Inclusion.hdd@wales.nhs.uk for the Diversity & Inclusion Team to review.
- Each Screening Template will be reviewed by the Diversity & Inclusion Team and feedback will be provided to the Procedure/ Project/ Proposal/ Policy owner. This may include recommendations for further action to inform robust decision-making.

Support

For further support please visit the [EqIA Sharepoint](#) or contact:

Email: Inclusion.hdd@wales.nhs.uk

Tel: 01554 899055

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Director and Directorate | Nursing and Midwifery |
| Service Area | Midwifery and Obstetrics |

| | |
|--|---|
| Title of Procedure, Project, Proposal, Policy being screened: | Bladder Care Management during the Intrapartum and postnatal period Guideline .1056 |
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Description of the Procedure/ Project/ Proposal/ Policy being screened (including key aims and objectives)

The aim of this guideline is to minimise the possibility of over-distension of the bladder which can cause a hypotonic bladder and prolonged voiding dysfunction with long term sequelae such as recurrent urinary tract infection, urinary incontinence and prolonged intermittent self-catheterization (ISC)

Objectives

- To maintain bladder function and to provide appropriate management to women during the intrapartum and postpartum period.
- To minimise the risk of prolonged voiding dysfunction in the puerperium and prevent its long term sequelae.

Evidence considered (including staff and population data, relevant research, expert and community knowledge etc.)

Hormonal changes in pregnancy decrease the tone of the detrusor muscle to allow more storage of increased urine production. In the post-partum period, the tone remains reduced, increasing the risk of overdistension and this is not helped by the physiological postpartum diuresis.

Combined with trauma to the bladder, pelvic floor muscles and nerves during birth, the postpartum bladder can become underactive and is therefore vulnerable to the retention of urine.

Postpartum voiding dysfunction is defined as failure to pass urine spontaneously within 6 hours of vaginal birth or catheter removal following birth. It is described as a common problem in the first day or two after childbirth and occurs in 0.7 – 4% of all births. (RCOG)

Quick action to drain an over-distended bladder and a period of bladder rest (i.e. catheterisation with free drainage) is the best management to reduce the risk of long-term damage. However, vigilant bladder care during labour and in the post-partum period will reduce the risk of over distension and thus the need for catheterisation.

Whilst urinary catheterisation can be essential for the safety and comfort of those women who have been identified as having bladder dysfunction it is also widely associated with urinary tract infections and sepsis. Whilst some women may need to be catheterised as part of treatment in the short term, it is important in most cases to undertake a TWOC before discharging home.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng210/chapter/Recommendations>

Assess which protected characteristics will potentially be affected by the proposal in the table below (please ✓ the relevant box to confirm positive, negative or no impact).

If at any point a negative impact has been identified (actual or potential), you do not need to proceed with the completion of this form, as a full EqlA must be undertaken: [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqlAs\) \(sharepoint.com\)](http://sharepoint.com)

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|---|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Age | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect older and younger people in different ways or affect one age group and not another? | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| Women and Birthing people of all ages will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. The age of the person does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline | | | | |
| Disability | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect those with a physical disability, learning disability, sensory loss or impairment, mental health conditions, long-term medical conditions such as diabetes? | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| Women and Birthing people who may have a disability will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. The disability of the person does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline. | | | | |
| Gender Reassignment | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect those who either: | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have undergone, intend to undergo or are currently undergoing gender reassignment. • Do not intend to undergo medical treatment but wish to live in a different gender from their gender at birth | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| All people who may intend to undergo, or do not intend to undergo medical treatment but wish to live in a different gender from their gender at birth will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. The gender identity of the person who is birthing does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline. | | | | |
| Marriage / Civil Partnership | | | | |
| Under the Equality Act, the characteristic of Marriage and Civil Partnerships is only protected in the workplace/ employment. | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect those who are married or in a Civil Partnership? This means someone who is legally married or in a civil partnership. | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| This group is in relation to workplace and employment and is therefore not relevant for this policy. | | | | |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect those who are pregnant or have recently had a baby? Maternity covers the period of 26 weeks after having a baby, whether or not they are on Maternity Leave. | | | | |
| Positive Impact | x | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | |
| This guideline has a positive impact as it is specifically for women and birthing people who may require the care and procedures discussed within this guideline | | | | |

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|---|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Race / Ethnicity | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect people of a different race, nationality, colour, culture or ethnic origin including non-English / Welsh speakers, Gypsies/Travellers, asylum seekers and migrant workers? | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| All Women and Birthing people will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. Race and Ethnicity does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline | | | | |
| Religion or Belief | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect people who have a religion or belief? The term 'religion' includes a religious or philosophical belief. | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| All Women and Birthing people will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. Religion or Beliefs do not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline | | | | |
| Sex | | | | |
| Is it likely to affect people who are mostly male or female. Where it applies to both equally does it affect one differently to the other? | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| This guideline is for the care of women and birthing people | | | | |
| Sexual Orientation | | | | |
| Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or either. | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| Women and Birthing people of any sexual orientation will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. Sexual orientation does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline. | | | | |
| Armed Forces Community | | | | |
| Consider whether this impacts on members of the Armed Forces and their families, whose health needs may be impacted long after they have left the Armed Forces and returned to civilian life. Also consider their unique experiences when accessing and using day-to-day public and private services compared to the general population. It could be through 'unfamiliarity with civilian life, or frequent moves around the country and the subsequent difficulties in maintaining support networks, for example, members of the Armed Forces can find accessing such goods and services challenging.' | | | | |
| For a comprehensive guide to the Armed Forces Covenant Duty and supporting resource please see: Armed-Forces-Covenant-duty-statutory-guidance | | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No Impact |
| | | | | x |
| All Women and Birthing people whom may be of the armed forces community will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. Being part of the Armed Forces community does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline. | | | | |
| Socio Economic Duty | | | | |
| Consider those on low income, economically inactive, unemployed or unable to work due to ill-health. Also consider people living in areas known to exhibit poor economic and/or health indicators and individuals who are unable to access services and facilities. Food / fuel poverty and personal or household debt should also be considered. | | | | |

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| For a comprehensive guide to the Socio-Economic Duty in Wales and supporting resources please see: more-equal-wales-socio-economic-duty | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| All Women and Birthing people will be treated equally in accordance with this guideline. The socio economic status of the person does not impact the care that they will receive when using this guideline. | | | |
| Welsh Language Is it likely to impact on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language? The Welsh language should be treated no less favourably than the English language. | | | |
| Positive Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | Negative Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The opportunity | | | |

If a negative impact has been identified, you are not required to complete this form as a full EqIA must be undertaken. A full EqIA template and guidance can be found on the following link: [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIAs\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

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| Screening Completed by: | Name | Liza Rose |
| | Title | Midwife Sonographer |
| | Contact details | Liza.Rose@wales.nhs.uk |
| | Date | 10/06/2025 |
| Screening Authorised by: (Directorate level owner of the procedures/ proposals/ projects/ policy) | Name | Cerian Llewellyn |
| | Title | Interim Head of Midwifery |
| | Contact details | Cerian.Llewellyn@wales.mhs.uk |
| | Date | 10/06/2025 |
| Guidance has been provided by Diversity & Inclusion Team: | Name | Kylie Daniels |
| | Title | Senior Diversity and Inclusion Officer |
| | Contact details | Kylie.daniels@wales.nhs.uk |
| | Date | 08/07/2025 |
| Diversity and Inclusion Team additional Comments: | | |

Please note: The D&I team will save a copy of the completed form for reference. If any changes are made after the date of review, it is the directorate's responsibility to update the EqIA and inform the D&I team.